

Enriching Lives



October 2, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
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Dear Supervisors:

Board of Supervisors

Michael D. Antonovich
Yvonne B. Burke
Don Knabe
Gloria Molina
Zev Yaroslavsky

**RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING
48th ANNUAL LOS ANGELES COUNTY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Commissioners

Rosalind Wyman
President

Betty Haagen
Vice President

Araceli Ruano
Secretary

Ronald D. Rosen
Executive Committee

Marjorie S. Lyte
Immediate Past President

Carlos C. Barrón
Arlene "Phoebe" Beasley

Tomas J. Benitez
Ollie Blanning

Aurelia Brooks
Alis Clausen

Judith Galperson
Laurel Karabian

Peter Lesnik
Hope Warschaw

Laura Zucker
Executive Director

1. Approve the proposed 48th Annual Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration program to be held Monday, December 24, 2007 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at the Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, and authorize the Executive Director to make changes in programming that may be necessary due to production requirements.
2. Direct the Executive Director to implement all production aspects of the live and televised programs and to sign the necessary agreements with KCET-TV, CDK Productions, and others as necessary.
3. Direct Five Star Parking to make free parking available to participants and attendees in the Music Center garage all day on December 24th. Lot 17 should also be available to accommodate any overflow. Appropriate signage regarding free parking should be posted at all entrances to the Music Center garage. Free parking is also needed in the Music Center garage for cast and crew during rehearsals from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on December 1st and 2nd and equipment

load-in throughout the week of December 18th through 23rd from 7:00 a.m. to midnight, as well as during load-out for crew, approximately December 26th through 28th.

4. Request the Music Center to make arrangements with the Music Center caterer to insure that Kendall's Brasserie and the Spotlight Café will be open for business throughout the duration of the program, and that any food/beverage items sold in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion be appropriate in cost and menu for the anticipated audience.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

The first annual holiday program was held on December 24, 1959 and has been an ongoing community tradition for the past 47 years.

At their meeting on September 10, 2007, the Arts Commissioners unanimously approved the proposed roster of participants. The proposed roster is presented to your Board each year in compliance with a motion approved by your Board on July 12, 1983. Approval at this time is necessary to complete the program production.

Performers are selected through a competitive application process. This year there were 90 applications submitted. The proposed program features 45 performing groups, 36% of them debut performances, and 44% youth groups. Altogether, this year's program will feature nearly 1,200 performers.

Selection criteria is based upon:

- Artistic excellence within a performance discipline/age category
- Suitability of the performance materials to a multi-cultural, multi-denominational holiday themed program
- Suitability of the performance for the 2,600 seat Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and the technical capability of the production
- Ability of performing group representatives to meet all deadlines and to work cooperatively with other organizations and production staff

The live audience for the 47th Annual Holiday Celebration last year was 9,300 attendees and the broadcast ratings for KCET indicated that no less than 111,400 households were watching the program at any given time and that at peak viewing times approximately 668,400 households were tuning into the show.

Highlights from the 2006 production have been edited into a one-hour national broadcast that will air in December on PBS. Last year over 280 stations aired a total of 436 broadcasts, a 36% increase in stations and a 16% increase in the numbers of broadcasts. Nine of the top ten markets aired 22 broadcasts.

The 2007 national PBS broadcast has been approved and will be available as a hard feed on December 10 at 10:00 p.m., which means subscribing member stations are almost certain to carry the broadcast as it is delivered to them as part of their PBS package of programming. As a soft feed, stations can elect to carry the broadcast and determine the time slot in which it airs as it suits their schedules. This year's soft feed will be made available on November 20th for those stations starting their holiday programming before Thanksgiving. The Holiday Celebration will also be offered by soft feed as a pre-assembled package of several hours of holiday programming for Christmas Day, so it may air in many markets across the country several times.

This is the first year that the program will be available in high-definition and letterbox format. It is the second year that the national program is supported by an official PBS.org website which provides additional information about the artists and cultural destinations in Los Angeles County for visitors.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence, as the program will provide the public with free access to high quality cultural performances.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

Funds to produce the program have been approved by your Board as part of the Arts Commission's budget appropriation for FY 07-08. Additionally, the Music Center contributes \$15,000 to the program and there is no fee for the use of the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. The American Federation of Television & Radio Artists waives 20% of the professional singers' and dancers' day rate and the International Association of Technical & Stage Employees and Professional Musicians Local 47 waive fees for the KCET broadcast on December 24th.

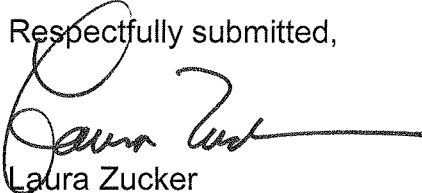
FACTS AND PROVISIONS/ LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

Not applicable.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

With the planned implementation of the County Cable Channel in mind, the Arts Commission is negotiating future rights for the local and national versions of the Holiday Celebration that would enable re-broadcasting via video on demand.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Zucker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Laura Zucker
Executive Director

Attachments (1)

cc: County Counsel
Steven Rountree
Nick Chico
Jesse Rodriguez

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION
PROPOSED 2007 48th ANNUAL LOS ANGELES COUNTY
HOLIDAY CELEBRATION ARTISTS

*indicates groups new to the *Holiday Celebration* program this year.

Activities for Retarded Children and Adults (ARC) Handbell Choir, which has become an audience favorite and is featured in the 2007 national broadcast, returns to this year's local program with holiday repertoire. (Officed in District:3, District/s Served: 3)

Antelope Valley High School Vocal Music-Travel Ensemble returns this year to perform an arrangement of seasonal works led by choral director John Crocker. (Officed in District:5, District/s Served:5)

Burbank Chorale, founded in 1920 and the longest continuously performing arts organization in the San Fernando Valley, will feature 40 voices singing classical choral selections in their first *Holiday Celebration* performance. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served:5)

Cecilia Noel is leader of the SalSoul band **The Wild Clams**. Their music blends Latin rhythms, R&B, jazz, and big band. (District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Church of Scientology Choir of Los Angeles returns this year with 25 members to perform a stirring Christmas song of peace and joy. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Clear Cosmo Art Studio will present *The Omnipresent Buddha's Light*, a dance that uses hand gestures from traditional Chinese dance to convey compassion. (Officed in District:1, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Colburn Children's Choir*, a vocal ensemble of the Colburn School of Performing Arts, will debut on the *Holiday Celebration* with traditional holiday arrangements. (Officed in District:1, District/s Served:1)

Combined Chamber Choir of San Gabriel Valley Children's Chorus and East Valley Children's Chorus will return to the program with both classical Christmas and Chinese folk song selections. (Officed in District:5, District/s Served:5)

Deniece Williams*, Grammy award-winning gospel singer, will debut on the *Holiday Celebration* with a performance featuring her band **The Emotions**. (District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Dulcimers of Dunmore*, a quintet composed entirely of dulcimer players, will perform traditional and seasonal Celtic songs. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles will return to this year's program with holiday repertoire. (Officed in District: 3, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Golden State Pops Orchestra will return with the **Sheridan Ball Singers** to present an arrangement of favorite holiday songs an 18-piece orchestral ensemble. (Officed in District 4, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Grandeza Mexicana Folk Ballet Company will present 20 members of their youth Dance Academy performing dances from the state of Guerrero, Mexico. (Officed in District: 2, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Grupo Folklórico Sabor de Mexico, an award winning dance troupe based in Carson, will perform a medley of Mexican folkloric dances. (Officed in District: 2, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Harmonic Bronze Handbell Ensemble features 12 to 18 year old musicians and will perform *By the Lakeside*. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served: 5)

Harmonies Girls Choir consists of 27 vocalists ranging from ages 8 to 19, most coming from from Latin American immigrant families. They will sing a selection of sacred music in Latin. (Officed in District: 1, District/s Served: 1)

JazzAntiqua Dance & Music Ensemble will dance to *Christmas Is Coming* by the Vince Guaraldi Trio, music made famous by the well-known animated program "A Charlie Brown Christmas." (Officed in District: 2, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Jubilant Voices of Holman United Methodist Church will return this year to sing their signature blend of classical and gospel repertoire. (Officed in District: 2, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Jung Im Lee Korean Dance Academy, a youth group consisting of dancers from 12 to 18 years of age, will perform a piece on 20 Korean drums. (Officed in District: 1, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Klezmer Juice*, an ensemble of musicians from diverse backgrounds, will debut on the *Holiday Celebration* with selections that blend traditional Klezmer and Yiddish soul with Latin rhythms. (Officed in District: 4, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Kultura Philippine Folk Arts will return to the program with a selection of Filipino folk dance. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Lian Ensemble will perform classical Sufi music composed by a 13th century Persian Sufi poet on traditional Persian instruments. (Officed in District: 2, District/s Served: 2)

Little Willie G. y Los Tamaleros, an East L.A.-based R&B group that is featured on the 2007 national show, will perform holiday hits again on this year's *Holiday Celebration*. (Officed in District: 1, District/s Served: 1)

Los Angeles Chinese Chorale will display their versatility during their performance of *Magnificent Horses (Fantasy on a Mongolian Folk Tune)* followed by a traditional Christmas carol. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served: 5)

Los Angeles Contemporary Dance* will perform new choreography created for the *Holiday Celebration* that will conjure snow angels and the dance they perform to summon snow from the sky. (Officed in District: 1, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Los Angeles Master Chorale, winners of the prestigious ASCAP/Chorus America Award for Adventurous Programming, returns to the program with a diverse selection of holiday music. (Officed in District: 1, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Los Cancioneros Master Chorale*, formed in 1949 to serve the communities of Los Angeles and the South Bay, will perform a diverse sampling of music from Venezuela, West Africa, and Lebanon. (Officed in District: 4, District/s Served: 4)

Los Pinguos, an Argentinian acoustic ensemble, is featured on the 2007 national show and will return to the *Holiday Celebration* with a new selection of music. (Officed in District: 3, District/s Served: 3)

Mandarin Orange Performing Arts will perform a celebratory dance that fuses the grace of the traditional Chinese water sleeve dance and the drama of tango music. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Mariachi Divas will return this year with a medley of popular American and Latin American holiday favorites sung in Spanish and English. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Mariachi Sol de Mexico, the first mariachi ensemble to be nominated for a Grammy, will perform a mariachi arrangement for *Silver Bells*. (Officed in District: 1, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Mark Luna*, a singer/songwriter who has written for radio, television, film and Broadway, performs a holiday song written especially for the *Holiday Celebration*. (Officed in District: 3, District/s Served: 3)

Namaste Women's Choir, a 16 voice ensemble, will perform works that evoke joy for the holiday season. (Officed in District: 3, District/s Served: 3)

New Valley Symphony Orchestra *, an Armenian music ensemble made up of members of the orchestra, will perform Armenian folk music on traditional instrumentation. (Officed in District: 3, District/s Served: 3)

OLL Children's Choir, directed by a member of the Los Angeles Master Chorale and composed of singers from 8 to 15 years of age, will sing a selection of traditional and contemporary holiday songs. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served: 5)

Opera California, a Korean-American youth choir of more than 80 voices with a live band, will return to the program with a medley of Christmas carols sung in both English and Korean. (Officed in District: 2, District/s Served: 2)

Palmdale High School Choral Union, thirty singers from the Antelope Valley, return this year to perform an arrangement of seasonal works led by choral director Michael McCulough. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served: 5)

Salvation Army Tabernacle Children's Chorus, the largest and youngest choir on the program, is known for their fun "choralography" and light-hearted holiday songs. (Officed in District: 5, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

San Fernando Valley Youth Chorus, whose members range in age from 9 to 18, will perform a program of Spanish carols. (Officed in District: 3, District/s Served: 3)

Showtime Katusha*, a Russian dance ensemble of children age 7 to 9, will perform to a traditional Russian song about matrioshky, the bright wooden folk art dolls, in their first appearance on the *Holiday Celebration*. (Officed in District: 3, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

The **Stefani Valadez Ensemble*** will perform their signature blend of world music infused with Ladino, Turkish, Latin and Middle Eastern rhythms and melodies. Their performance selections will be sung in Hebrew and Ladino (a mixture of Hebrew and ancient Spanish languages). (Officed in District: n/a, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Tribaljazz*, the acoustic ensemble of legendary Doors drummer John Densmore, blends and fuses improvisational jazz, beats and world music. (Officed in District: n/a, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

United Children's Chorus of Los Angeles, an award-winning Christian acapella choral ensemble of youth ages 6 to 25, will perform a selection of traditional Christmas songs. (Officed in District: 2, District/s Served: 1,2,3,4,5)

Valleyaires Barbershop Chorus will return to the *Holiday Celebration* this year with thirty-five male voices performing a selection of holiday songs in barbershop style harmonies. (Officed in District:3, District/s Served: 3)